

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS

FROM

ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Terrific Convulsion of the Sandwich Islands.

Fearful Earthquakes and Volcanic Eruptions.

Mountains Hurlled Into the Air, Rivers of Molten Fire, an Island Risen from the Ocean.

WHOLE VILLAGES DESTROYED.

GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

The British War Operations in Abyssinia.

Magdala Burned, Theodorus' Dynasty Deposed and a New King Crowned by the British.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

Terrific Volcanic Eruption—Mauna Loa in Action—Two Thousand Earthquake Shocks in Twelve Days—Fearful Tidal Waves—Entire Villages Destroyed—One Hundred Lives Lost—The Greatest Volcanic Eruption of Modern Days.

HONOLULU, Hawaii, April 15, 1868.
VIA SAN FRANCISCO, May 5, 1868.

The greatest volcanic eruption recorded in modern times has occurred on the island of Hawaii, one of the group of Sandwich Islands. For some time past it had been observed that the crater of Kilauea was very active, and that a new volcano had been formed. The volcano is the well known Mauna Loa, and it has an elevation of 13,758 feet. On the 27th of March last the new eruption commenced and has continued up to the latest date. During twelve days there have been two thousand shocks of earthquake, followed by fearful tidal waves which have destroyed entire villages and caused the death of one hundred persons.

For fifteen days the district Kona has been the centre of motion for the great eruption. A gigantic stream of molten lava is flowing from the summit of Mauna Loa across the lands of Kakaia and Poakini to the sea at Kalaualua landing. The slope and part of the summit of a mountain fifteen hundred feet high have been lifted up bodily by the earthquake and thrown over the tops of trees for a distance of over one thousand feet. At Waiohine a creek has opened, extending from the sea. To as high as the eye can reach on the slope of Mauna Loa the lava is from one to seven feet in width, and an eruption of molten lava is thrown from the side of the mountain, between Lyman's and Richardson's, a distance of two miles and three-quarters, with a width of one mile, in the short space of three minutes. This terrible eruption overwhelmed houses, persons and hundreds of animals, and scattered death and destruction wherever the lava fell.

A column of smoke seven and four-fifths miles in altitude was thrown out of Mauna Loa, obscuring everything for miles around, save where the bright spiral pillars of fire flashed upwards from the mouth of the volcano. The sight was one of the grandest but most appalling ever witnessed and almost defies description.

The immense tidal waves came rushing in with so great a height that they swept over the tops of the coconut trees on the Kona coast.

During the severest shock of earthquake, which took place on the 2d of April, no living creature could stand up for a moment. Immense bodies of earth were tossed about at great distances, as if they were feathers wafted from point to point by a storm of wind. Not one stone stands upon another as before in this district. Immense precipices which have hitherto been a terror to all who have seen them, have been levelled to the earth, and where the ground was formerly smooth and unbroken for miles around the earth has been rent asunder and upheaved, forming gigantic chasms and precipices.

The entire topographical appearance of the country has been so completely changed that even those who have lived in the desolated district all their lives cannot recognize it or point out localities with which they were formerly familiar. Luckily, this part of the island is but sparsely populated, and the lands are not in general cultivation.

The loss of life as far as can be ascertained is as follows:—In the village of Palika, thirty-three; at Mokaka, thirteen; at Palukaha, four; at Honah, twenty-seven; at Vanilo, three. This makes a total of eighty persons killed as reported up to the present time. There are rumors about that the casualties considerably exceed one hundred, but nothing definite on this matter has been received. All of the unfortunate persons who have lost their lives were native Hawaiians, not a white person being killed or in any way injured.

Expeditions are being fitted out here to relieve the distressed.

At the present moment the entire group of islands is enveloped in a dense black smoke, and the indications are that Mauna Loa is still in active volcanic eruption.

Additional Particulars of the Eruption—Narrow Escape of Persons—Immense Flow of Lava—The Scene Magnificent.

HONOLULU, April 15, 1868.
VIA SAN FRANCISCO, May 5, 1868.

Since writing my last despatch further intelligence has been received of the great volcanic eruption. A vessel has just arrived from Hawaii, bringing later accounts of the lava flow and of the eruption in general.

The first stream of lava broke out from the crater of Mauna Loa, some two miles above the residence of Captain Robert Brown, and flowed directly towards it. It came down the mountain side in a broad stream, several feet in depth, and travelled with such rapidity that the family in the house had barely time to escape, taking away with them nothing but their clothes. The path which they took was perfectly free from lava; but ten minutes after they had left it and reached a point

of safety the entire road was covered with the fiery stream.

The lava pushed onwards to the sea, and drove the water back with such violence that it became agitated and convulsed, and huge waves rolled towards the ocean as if it labored to fury by a storm. The ground thus occupied is now a mass of lava, forming a point for at least one mile in length; and as the stream continues to descend the probability is that it will remain stationary and form a portion of the island.

The most terrible shock of earthquake, which took place on April 2, burst open the earth at the village of Waiechina, and a tidal wave rushed inwards with fearful effect. It was over fifty feet in height, and swept over the tops of the high coconut trees, carrying death and destruction to persons and property. Throughout the island this shock was felt with fearful effect. Buildings of all kinds were torn from their foundations and hurled great distances, and many persons and animals lost their lives.

The scene at the craters was appalling. Huge rocks were hurled from their mouths, accompanied by streams of lava, hot and red, which attained an altitude of one thousand feet. When it fell it rushed down the mountain towards the sea at the rate of nearly ten miles per hour. The new crater which was formed on the 27th of March is over two miles in circumference. It vomited rocks and broad streams of liquid fire which illuminated the night for an area of over fifty miles.

In addition to the one mile of land formed by the lava driving back the sea another stream extending for a distance of three miles poured down the mountain, striking the water with a tremendous shock. At this time another earthquake shock occurred, and immediately after an island, nearly four hundred feet in height, rose above the water and was soon after joined to the island of Hawaii by the stream of lava.

The eruption of moist red clay took place during the great earthquake shock, and went rushing across the plain below for a distance of three miles. From the midst of the crater from whence this came an immense stream of water is now pouring down.

The entire section of country around Mauna Loa has been desolated. A stream of lava is flowing under the ground six miles from the sea and has broken out in four places, each throwing up brilliant jets of fire. The base of the volcano is about thirty miles in circumference and now presents a most barren and desolate aspect, the gases arising from the rent earth having completely destroyed all vegetation.

The earthquake shocks were felt in all of the Sandwich Islands, but only around Mauna Loa was the effect disastrous.

The eruption still continues with unabated violence, and the scene is one of the most terribly grand that has ever been witnessed in modern times. From the crater of Mauna Loa the huge column of smoke continues to ascend, hiding from view the skies and clouds and enveloping the entire country in partial darkness. Every now and then thick streams of lava shoot upwards from the midst of the smoke, illuminating everything for a few minutes. Hundreds of jets of flames burst from the lava and are thrown for a distance of a thousand feet, the whole forming a pyrotechnic display of surpassing magnificence.

Shook after shock of earthquake convulses the island, and ever and anon the low rumbling sound which breaks out from amid the din and noise of the eruption indicates where the earth has been violently torn asunder or where the summits of huge hills and mountains have been hurled from their places and sent rolling downwards to their base.

Up to the present time the damage inflicted has been confined to the island of Hawaii, but if the eruption continues it is feared that the adjacent islands will feel the effect. The loss of property so far is estimated at five hundred thousand dollars.

The greatest terror and suffering imaginable exist on the island. His Majesty the King has issued a proclamation calling for relief for the unfortunate sufferers of the eruption. A sloop has been despatched already with provisions and other necessities, and a large number of persons have started from this town to witness the grand spectacle.

The opinion prevails that the eruption has passed through its most violent and dangerous period. The discharge of lava and rocks continues, however, and the spectacle is a wildly and terribly grand one.

Mauna Loa—Its Previous Volcanic Eruptions.

Mauna Loa, or Roa, as it is frequently called, has been well known to the world for many years past as one of the most active and terrible volcanoes in the world. Situated in the centre of the island of Hawaii, one of the group of Sandwich Islands, it gradually ascends until it reaches an altitude of 13,758 feet, as was ascertained during the exploring expedition under Lieutenant Wilkes, of the United States Navy. This great height appears to have been attained by action, and, indeed, the entire island of Hawaii is formed of the lava which has been, from time to time, thrown from the crater of the volcano. The lower parts of the mountain are covered with forests and are comparatively fertile, but after reaching a certain height everything becomes quite barren, and nothing but lava mixed with clay and hardened almost to the consistency of flint forms the summit. This gives it a smooth and, as it is quite round at the top, dome-like appearance.

The mountain is covered with craters. The principal one, known by the name of Moku-a-weo-weo, is some 15,000 feet in length by 5,000 in width. Its depth varies from 470 to 780 feet, and the bottom is traversed with ridges from ten to fifty feet high, alternating with deep chasms and smooth beds of hardened lava. These latter are covered with forests, from which ascend thin clouds of steam and smoke. Another formidable, though smaller, crater is called Pohakohane. These two craters, however, do not seem to have taken part in the eruption reported in the telegraphic despatch. The one that was, or is, in action is the great crater of Kilauea. This is three and a half miles in length, two and a half in width and 1,044 feet in depth, and stands at an elevation of over 4,000 feet above the level of the sea. It is completely surrounded by a wall of hardened lava, ranging from 600 to 2,000 feet in width and 600 feet in depth. At the bottom of the crater is a lake of liquid fire continually surging and giving to the clouds above a beautiful silvery look in the day and a bright red at night.

In January, 1841, the lake overflowed, and Lieutenant Wilkes estimated that during one night fifteen millions cubic feet of lava were discharged, and two hundred millions cubic feet were discharged from the small pit in one day. In 1854 another terrible eruption occurred, which lasted thirteen months and covered an area of three hundred square miles with lava. In January, 1860, the last and (until the present one) greatest eruption took place, three new craters being formed by the convulsion. The eruption lasted for nearly ten months, and was of terrible grandeur. Streams of lava were hurled from the craters to a height of from 300 to 500 feet, and after they had fallen traversed a distance of five miles where the liquid fire flowed into the sea, driving back the waters. Those who witnessed the meeting of the two elements described the scene as one of awful splendor. Quite a number of shocks of earthquake accompanied this eruption. By the report of our special telegraph it would appear as if the present eruption exceeded in magnitude and terrific grandeur anything that ever preceded it, and this would make it more violent in every respect than the recent eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

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ABYSSINIA.

THE FORCES OF MAGDALA WITH ITS ARMAMENT DESTROYED BY THE BRITISH—THE PALACE AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS FIRED—A COMPLETE RANSACK AND THE PRINCE IN ACHES—THEODORUS' WIDOW AND SON PROTECTED—THE ENGLISH MARCH FOR THE COAST.

QUEEN'S HOTEL, LONDON, May 8, 1868.

The authorities at the War Office and India House have received official advices from Major General Sir Robert Napier, commanding the army in Abyssinia, dated at Talanta, on the 21st of April, in which he reports the operations and movements of his troops undertaken subsequent to the capture of Magdala and the death of King Theodorus.

When the Queen's forces took possession of the fortress and works at Magdala they immediately destroyed over thirty large guns, with some few mortars, which had been used in defence of the place or to impede the English advance.

The gates and loopholed bastions were mined and blown up with gunpowder.

The town proper, and the more interior fortified points were fired, and every building used as a dwelling in the place, including the royal palace, burned.

The church was spared.

The work of the razzia was completed on the 17th of April.

The widow of the late King Theodorus and her son, heretofore heir apparent of the Abyssinian throne, were protected by General Napier and escorted from his camp to the Tigre country.

Having discharged his duty and accomplished his errand of liberation for the captives in the most complete manner, General Napier mustered his army as if on parade, the command "Bont face; march!" was given, and the British troops left Magdala on the 18th of April on their route in return to the Red Sea coast.

Napier hoped to reach Zoula by the last days of May, from which point the road is comparatively easy to Senafe and Annestley bay.

The wounded men were doing well—most of them convalescent—and the army trains kept well up.

The Herald's Special Reports—Theodorus' Funeral—A New Dynasty.

QUEEN'S HOTEL, LONDON, May 8—Noon.

The special correspondent of the HERALD, attached to General Napier's expedition in Abyssinia, furnishes interesting despatches, dated at Magdala on the 16th of April.

The deceased King Theodorus was buried in the church at Magdala, official respect being shown to his remains.

The young Prince Theodorus, his son, will be conveyed to England and educated there.

Gobazze, the friendly chief, who aided the Queen's army in its march through Tigre, will be duly crowned king of Abyssinia, thus introducing a new dynasty.

Napier's army was to march for India and home within two days from the date of the HERALD's special report.

Details of the Fighting—Grand Advance of Native Warriors—Gallant Charge on the British Batteries—Severe Repulse and a Flag of Truce—Napier's Terms—The King in His Last Extremity.

QUEEN'S HOTEL, LONDON, May 8—P. M.

Three other special despatches from the HERALD's correspondent with Napier's army have just come to hand. They are dated the 10th, 11th and 12th of April, but have been delayed two weeks in the transmission, owing, it is to be presumed, to the confusion incident to the fact of the sudden termination of the war which prevailed at the different points of reception and repetition along the route.

The reports convey a very graphic picture of the great battle which took place between the British and Abyssinians on the 10th of April—Good Friday—previous to the storming of Magdala.

As soon as the English advance came in view the Abyssinian army stood forth in grand array, as if in response to the sight.

Theodorus opened at once with his mortars on Napier. The British replied with the same description of gun. The fire from the defences having endured for a short time three thousand five hundred warriors, setting up loud shouts of joy and revenge and chanting national songs of triumph, dashed with great ardor down the steep hill from the palace fortress and charged the British light batteries gallantly.

Napier's men stood firm and the Abyssinians were repulsed, having been hurled warriors, including two prominent chiefs, killed during the engagement.

The tactics of Theodorus' officers were judicious and the courage displayed by his soldiers excellent.

Aware of his heavy loss Theodorus forwarded a flag of truce to General Napier's headquarters, inquiring on what terms the English would negotiate a peace.

General Napier replied that, speaking in the name of the Queen, his terms were merely and strictly an unconditional surrender.

Theodorus, through his envoy, immediately said he would never accept such arbitrary terms as that, seeing even his present defeat he would prefer to fight to the end.

In conclusion the King requested General Napier to take the British captives, whom he would hand over to him, and "go away hence" when they had been all released.

The King refused positively a surrender for himself, and the conference was broken off.

Magdala was, consequently, "stormed" by the English a few days afterwards.

During the latest moments of the fighting after the British assault, and when driven to his latest standpoint, Theodorus attempted suicide on three separate occasions.

He was rendered perfectly furious by his defeats.

The released captives say that they saw three hundred native prisoners killed by the King's order on the 9th of April.

IRELAND.

George Francis Train's Finances and Friends.

DUBLIN, May 8, 1868.

The case of George Francis Train was before the Bankruptcy Court here to-day. In reply to questions put to him Mr. Train said he had no property himself and no control over that pertaining to his wife. He was recommended for further examination.

General Nagle and the other Prisoner prisoners were captured on board the Jacquet packet (Eris's Hope) some time since and imprisoned here have been released from confinement, having previously given the authorities the pledges required.

They celebrated their freedom yesterday afternoon by calling on George Francis Train, who is in jail in this city.

ENGLAND.

Prospects of Harvest.

LONDON, May 8, 1868.

The weather to-day has been very warm and fine.

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FRANCE.

THE BANK RETURN AND SPECIE FLOW.

PARIS, May 8, 1868.

According to the official report made at the close of business hours yesterday the amount of specie in the Bank of France has increased during the past week to the extent of 14,000,000 of francs.

VENEZUELA.

A TRUCE OF FOURTEEN DAYS—NO TERMS ARRIVED AT—RE-SIGNATION OF THE MINISTRY—ANARCHY IN SEVERAL STATES—DANISH CLAIMS.

HAVANA, MAY 8, 1868.

Our latest advices from Lagayeta are to the 15th of April. The republic was